

REMARKS

In view of the above amendments and following remarks, reconsideration and further examination are requested.

The specification and abstract have been reviewed and revised to make editorial changes thereto and generally improve the form thereof, and a substitute specification and abstract are provided. No new matter has been added by the substitute specification and abstract.

In the Office Action mailed May 2, 2006, the claims were objected to for a variety of reasons and claims 1-5, 7, 9 and 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 for being directed to non-statutory subject matter.


In reply to these positions taken by the Examiner, claims 1-10 have been canceled and claims 11-24 have been added. New claims 11-24 have been drafted taking into account the objections and rejection issued by the Examiner, are believed to be free of the bases for these objections and rejection, and are otherwise believed to be in full compliance with 35 U.S.C. § 101 and 112.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and an early Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

If after reviewing this Amendment, the Examiner believes that any issues remain which must be resolved before the application can be passed to issue, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicants' undersigned representative by telephone to resolve such issues.

Respectfully submitted,

Pierre GERBER et al.

By: 
Joseph M. Gorski
Registration No. 46,500
Attorney for Applicants

JMG/nka
Washington, D.C. 20006-1021
Telephone (202) 721-8200
Facsimile (202) 721-8250
September 5, 2006